Planning Begins

### the Tribune's Editor Letters

I wholly disapprove of what you say and will defend to the death your right to say it.-Voltaire to Helvetius.

## Self-Supporting Prisons

State Institutions the Logical Market for Jail Products-No Inroads on Free Labor

Let us work together for an Ameri-

Masters of English

English novelists write with soberness

modern novelists have higher ideals

HENRY LEFFERT.

New York, Nov. 9, 1922.

Mary Patricia Willcocks.

New York, Nov. 8, 1922.

ADOLPH LEWISOHN.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The time is ripe for an effort of the community, as well as the intoward improvement in the prisoner's stinct for self-preservation, demands condition which is solidly based and that it prevent the degradation of the free from emotion. This must lie in prisoner and do all-that is possible to making it more generally advantageous bring him into sound and decent reto treat the prisoner well. The doc- lationship with society. But the goal trine is not novel. In fact it is a hun- is still a long way off. dred years since Elizabeth Fry first set forth the truth that the lot of the pris- can prison system which will answer oner could be made tolerable only by the age-long challenge-what shall be giving him productive work to do, and done with the men in prison? practically every step of progress in mproving the lot of prisoners and

lifting the level of prison administra-

tion has been brought about by apply-To the Editor of The Tribune. ing Elizabeth Fry's doctrine. Productive employment in prisons is the only sound basis for their steady in which he gives his list of the half act, because it produces crime. progress toward sound conditions. Fur. dozen greatest contemporary writers of 5. I am opposed to the Lusk law, be thermore, the productive employment English-Hudson, Hardy, Conrad, Kip- cause it was enacted at the instance must be organized in such manner that ling, Morley and Shaw. Surely one of professional patriots. gradually the prisons will become self. need be neither too conservative nor 6. I am opposed to czarism as shown see no necessity for the heavy taxation list. imposed on law-abiding citizens in Professor Phelps in his admirable D. Newton. order to maintain able-bodied, mentally little book, "The Advance of the Eng- 7. I favor public ownership of pub-

The goal at which all efforts for amelioration should aim is that every of mind. And he answers that no ing prisoners at the end of their term than Joseph Conrad, J. M. Barrie, posed to group government. to civil life in condition to be useful John Galsworthy, May Sinclair and nembers of the community. Unless the prison fulfills a remedial function; unless it brings about an actual improvement-physically, mentally and morally

ing the last ten years toward giving the name of Galsworthy. I am afraid the prisoners productive labor and enabling them to recover at least a part by that of the greater artist, John do not forget that Governor Miller, of their economic self-respect.

done in this direction, and a little ob- mortals for "Pompey the Great." occupied properly at productive labor is, he belongs to a bygone age. Con. ing candidacy of W. R. Hearst. unless there is a market for what he rad, of course, should have a place, great number of obstacles. Where can such a market be found in whic, prison products will not compete unfairly with the products of free labor? least one of the works of H. G. Wells The logical market for prison prod. as a special favorite? ucts is in the commodity requirements | Shaw makes way for Barrie-dear of state institutions and departments J. M., who sees life so keenly but so -for only when the state sells its kindly. If we limit the list to half a products to state institutions and de- dozen, Hudson must fight to retain his partments is its selling department ad- place. For there's W. Somerset Maugtions of the politician.

Unfair competition with the products alone entitles him to a place on our beyond, their occupation gone. of free labor is also eliminated by gov- list. And may it not be that some day ernmental consumption of prison prod- "Our Betters" and "The Circle" will ucts. In working to better the condi-tion of the prisoner we should not for-Sheridan and Wilde as the great comget the welfare of the workman out- edies of English manners? side the prison, to say nothing of the welfare of the employer.

How can prison labor be directed so as to produce what the institutions can consume when, as too often has been the case, those institutions are numerous, heterogeneous and under diverse management? If you have, as was the ease in the State of New York until recently, fifty-eight purchasing agents, each one exhibiting originality, or at least variation, in his requirements and standards, it is clear that the prison will hardly stand any chance of producing goods suitable for such an im mense and unpredictable variety of commodities. This has wrecked many an attempt to employ prison labor or a productive basis, and herein has lain one of the great obstacles to prison

Some years ago efforts were begun to bring about uniform standards and centralized purchase within the states, so as to obviate the unreasonable variety of demands and multiplicity of purchasing agents. This movement, so obviously reasonable and economical, has made much progress. It has been embodied to a greater or less extent in the legislation of all but eight of the states, while twenty-three have the full provision, and there are grounds for hope that it will be pressed to acceptance and adoption in all the states of the Union. It is simply the application of the purchase methods adopted by all successful business corporations to the purchase methods of govern-

A mere glance will show the advantages to be obtained from uniform standards and central purchase. They make it possible for the entire requirements of state institutions in such a simple matter as shirts and shoes to be made uniform, and so enable the production of these necessary articles by prison labor in such quantity and on such simple standards as to make

their production economical. An adequate market for prison products makes possible the payment of adequate wages to prisoners. If there is an established market and demand for the product of the prisoner's labor, and if he can produce the articles required at a reasonable price, he has already taken his place among the profitable workers. It follows that he may-and in justice should-receive payment for his work. He is lifted from the level of a mere burden on society, and in some cases a menace to its welfare, into the class of the producer. If this can be recognized in the only proper manner-by payment for his work and by giving him the conditions of labor, in which self-respect will be possible-plainly a very great step has been taken in the direction of making him once more a safe, useful and self-respecting member of

society. That is the goal which enlightened and humane persons have kept before themselves from generation to generation. It is, of course, intolerable that men should be incarcerated under such conditions as are almost certain to degrade, if not to brutalize, them, and which tend to make them thus a greater menace to the society which they have

"One of the Gallery" Supported Him on Eight Counts To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: As one of the gallery to whom ou refer in your editorial on "Governor Miller in Defeat," I would like already injured. The very self-respect to take exception to the implication that the gallery is an unthinking electorate.

A Smith Voter's Reasons

I voted for Alfred E. Smith for the following reasons:

1. Because I am in favor of the direct primary.

2. I am opposed to Federal paternalism as embodied in the Eighteenth Amendment, which encroaches on state's rights.

3. I am opposed to the state administration sending a group down to run the affairs of New York City. Exit

the Transit Commission. 4 I am opposed to the Mullan-Gage Sir: I have read "Reader's" letter

J. Lyons, Jeremiah Wood and Charles

lish Novel," asks what contemporary lic utilities.

8. I am in favor of government by all of the people of the state as op-

Governor Miller has been and is an intellectual giant. But he does not It seems to me that any list of surpass Smith in intelligence or statesgreatest contemporary writers would manship. Is he a greater public man be incomplete without the name of than Smith? Is he a greater adminis--in those who are subjected to its John Galsworthy. He combines a trater than Smith? Alfred E. Smith treatment it is, in a very large sense, prose style which is second to none steered the ship of state through one with great sincerity and high pur- of its most trying periods in history. Happily, progress has been made dur- pose. Therefore my list begins with I refer to the reconstruction period of

Masefield. Poet, dramatist and nov- in 1919, preferred to discuss Article There is still an immense work to be elist, he deserves a place with the im- X instead of state issues. What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the My list does not contain the cher. gander. However, I agree with you servation will show how serious are the obstacles. The prisoner cannot be ished name of Hardy—for, great as he is as to Smith's fight against the menac-

In the foregoing I have tried to produces. Here there have arisen a nor would I slight H. G. Wells. You show that the people think, as Gov-

JAMES P. MARTIN. New York, Nov. 8, 1922.

Might Take Up Bootlegging

When spirit messages from the other world are carried by radio some hardequately protected from the manipula- ham. His "Of Human Bondage" ranks working "controls" of the old regime with Butler's "Way of All Flesh." That will be walking the streets of the great

> The Half With the Stinger (From The Toronto Globe) A North Dakota man has sold a half-

> > The

**CHALMERS** 

## The G. A. R. Encampment

A Veteran's Account of the Reunion at Des Moines-The Question of Increasing Pensions

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I should like to call the atten- toric surrender.

tion of your readers to some of the at Des Moines, Iowa.

expect to live for fifty years.

ing voice.

country that they form no more soci- from fatigue more quickly.) eties with "G. A. R." attached to the supporting. As a business man I can overcatholic to give a more felicitous by Governor Miller's repulse of John name chosen, intimating that they had no desire to turn the encampment into Penns, Ivania Avenue, and this was ome political and social flub-dub. They told everybody that the Grand Army had but one auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, which has stood by the veterans since its organization.

> They denounced the attempt to change the designation of the Civil War from "the War of the Rebellion" "the War Between the States."

In relation to the coal and railroad trikes, they declared the issues inbased on greed.

They declared the right of every man bility for violation of contract. They diers went West to fight the hostile denied the right of every man who has savages and subdue that great region. abandoned work to prevent another from doing that work and doing it in resentatives in both branches of Con-

flag be changed upon "my flag" to of positions of honor and trust. 'the American flag."

place of meeting, in 1923.

The children are ever the true allies of the Grand Atay. They were average age is seventy-eight years; out in thousands and yelled as only their expectancy of life is only about happy, healthy kids can. A pretty five and one-half years. The increase child and a grizzled veteran may seem in pension would cause an increase in two ends of the great circle coming but this would soon be balanced by close together.

Let us remember that it has been nterest in a bee to an Alabama apiarist sixty-one years since Sumter was for \$150. The dispatch does not say fired on, fifty-nine years since the Private 24th Michigan, Iron Brigade. great battle of Gettsyburg, fifty-seven New York, Nov. 9, 1922.

For fifty-four years the living comproceedings of the Grand Army of the rades have held their simple services which is imposing so many onerous Republic at its recent encampment held and laid flowers on the graves of their conditions as to the way people shall dead comrades as each May time came. live-in the dim quiet of the little There came about 17,000 veterans, Records say that there were 4,806,567 church; no pomp, no canonical form; rom Maine to California. Many of men who served as soldiers in the no grave, serious, awe-inspiring them came alone, took care of them- Union Army. The same records state physician-there the plain, unassum selves on the long journey, looked out that of these men, about 800,000 were ing, earnest man affiliated with inc for changes of cars and routes, se- under eighteen years of age. More money-making profession laid his rured their own hotel accommodations, than 200,000 were sixteen or less, and hands with prayer upon those who carried their own grips and went about some 100,000 were about fifteen years came to him with faith in their hearts, the appointed business like men who of age. (It seems incredible, but I and they received both physical and enlisted at the age of sixteen, and I psychical benefit. And their faces as They elected as commander in chief knew there were many boys of about they came down from the chancel were Judge James W. Willett, of Tama, Iowa, my age and it all seemed natural such as I never have seen coming from a splendid specimen of the solider type, enough. Indeed, officers generally pre-with a fine presence and a clear, ring- ferred boys in their commands to old- office. er men, as they had more dash, obeyed

> At the close of the war over 200,000 men marched in the grand review up estimated as about one-fourth of the entire army at that time. For many years the grand parade at the annual encampment of the G. A. R. would, have 75,000, then 50,000, and so on down, as death claimed its annual harvest.

For over fifty years the men of the Grand Army directed the affairs of this nation. Five of their number were volved in both to be purely selfish and elected as the heads of the nation they eided to save. For two generations they struggled to save the country o work, whether he belonged to a union from internal foes, from the horrors or not, and that the same man had the of reconstruction and the craze of inright to quit work, subject to his lia- flated currency. Many of the ex-sol-For two generations they had repgress, members in the Cabinet, many They urged that the pledge to the governors of states, and in hundreds

Senator Bursum recently introduced Milwaukee was chosen as the next a bill to raise the amount of pension paid veterans and their widows, and The people of the Iowa city cut loose in a speech to his fellow Senators he to honor the veterans. The streetcar stated the facts as to why his bill ompanies and many places seemed to should pass. He stated that the numthink that the old men came loaded ber of veterans on the pension rolls down with counterfeit money, and re- was rapidly diminishing by death. fused to aid in the crime of putting it "They died at the rate of 5,000 per in circulation. Many autos were labeled month last year, or a total loss of "Hop in. We're going there." about 50,000. There will be a loss of a long way apart, but it may be the the expense budget for a short time,

the death losses.' There are the hard, cold facts.

#### Faith Healing To the Editor . The Tribune.

Sir: I see that the medical men

would insist upon making faith healing a mere commercial enterprise. To any one who attended the meet ings conducted by James Moore Hickson in Trinity Chapel, two or three | years since Appointtex and the his- | years ago, this will indeed seem a calamity. There, free from the clamor and turmoil of the world outside,

We have our hospitals for the sick; They suggested to the women of the orders more promptly and recovered churches for everybody. Let us keep simple faith healing free from com mercialism. R. E. M. New York, Nov. 9, 1922.

> Perhaps He's Hit Home Brew Considering his other characteristics, its seems to be quite fortunate that the

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able charge.

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The Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco and other offices of Raymond-Whitcomb report that immediately following Election Day there has been a sudden awakening of interest in winter recreation. Men and women who have been undecided, possibly without any real reason, but because of the biennial upset characteristical American life, are now making their plans to go on some on the

their plans to go on some of the great, unrivalled cruises and un-surpassed land tours of America's

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health could possibly find room on board a Raymond-Whitcomb Cruise steamer or on one of their tours. The expense is undoubtedly less than equivalent comforts and facili-ties at the great winter resorts or even the Riviera for an equal time. Furthermore a Raymond, Whitcomb

Furthermore, a Raymond-Whitcomb Cruise gives the needed break from daily business and social cares.

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With Election Past

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